

Unimas lecturer: Whatever is promised in manifesto must be delivered

KUCHING: Now that both the Barisan Nasional and Pakatan Rakyat have unveiled their own manifesto for the coming general election, what is important is that they walk the talk.

Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) senior lecturer Dr Jeniri Amir said there was no point in having nicely written manifesto when at the end of the day, nothing was being done to fulfil what had been promised.

"A manifesto is a contract between a party and voters. It should not only look beautiful on paper.

"Whatever is promised must be delivered and implemented accordingly," he told *The Star* when commenting on Barisan's manifesto which was unveiled by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak on Saturday evening.

Jeniri singled out Barisan's pledge to fight corruption was nothing new as it had been promised before in the previous elections.

He lamented that the manifesto did not mention anything about oil royalty for the state, whereas it was highlighted in Pakatan's manifesto that the state would be given 20% royalty.

"At least there must be some increase from the current 5%," he added.

He pointed out that Sarawak and Sabah should be given more focus especially in the infrastructure development for rural areas.

Likewise, he said the people's livelihood should be improved and this could be done through better economic management.